

Application No. 10/661,925
Response to OA of 05/27/2005

Remarks

In the present response, six claims (1, 9, 10, 15-17) are amended, and one claim (21) is newly added. Applicants believe no new matter is entered. Claims 1-21 are presented for examination.

I. Claims Rejection: 35 USC § 102(e)

Claims 1-15 and 18-20 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by USPN 6,585,162 (Sandbach). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

A proper rejection of a claim under 35 U.S.C. §102 requires that a single prior art reference disclose each element of the claim. See MPEP § 2131, also, *W.L. Gore & Assoc., Inc. v. Garlock, Inc.*, 721 F.2d 1540, 220 U.S.P.Q. 303, 313 (Fed. Cir. 1983). Since Sandbach neither teaches nor suggests each element in the claims, these claims are allowable over Sandbach.

Claim 1

Claim 1 recites numerous limitations that are not taught or suggested in Sandbach. By way of example, claim 1 recites a keyboard that "is divided into two mechanically separated sections in the open position." Nowhere does Sandbach teach or suggest a keyboard that is divided into two mechanically separated sections in the open position. By contrast, Sandbach expressly shows the keyboard 202 in the open position in FIGS. 4-6. As shown, the keyboard 202 of Sandbach is not divided into two mechanically separated sections in the open position.

For at least these reasons, claim 1 is allowable over Sandbach. A dependent claim inherits the limitations of a base claim. Thus, for at least the reasons given in connection with independent claim 1, all dependents claims of claim 1 are also allowable over Sandbach.

Claim 9

Claim 9 recites numerous limitations that are not taught or suggested in Sandbach. By way of example, claim 9 recites "moving the keyboard from the closed position to an

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open position by rotating two separated sections of the keyboard that are each pivotally connected to different portions of the body." Nowhere does Sandbach teach or suggest a method of moving a keyboard from a closed to open position by rotating two separated sections of the keyboard that are each pivotally connected to different portions of the body. By contrast, FIG. 3 of Sandbach shows a partially unfolded configuration of the keyboard (col. 2, lines 11-12). Here, the first and second lateral portions 301 and 305 of the keyboard 202 are folded back to reveal the device (see col. 4, lines 56-59). Sandbach does not teach or suggest rotating two separated sections of the keyboard that are each pivotally connected to different portions of the body.

For at least these reasons, claim 9 is allowable over Sandbach. A dependent claim inherits the limitations of a base claim. Thus, for at least the reasons given in connection with independent claim 9, all dependents claims of claim 9 are also allowable over Sandbach.

Claim 15

Claim 15 recites numerous limitations that are not taught or suggested in Sandbach. By way of example, claim 15 recites a keyboard that includes "two separated sections that are pivotally connected to different portions of the body." Nowhere does Sandbach teach or suggest a keyboard that includes two separated sections that are pivotally connected to different portions of the body. By contrast in Sandbach, the first and second lateral portions of the keyboard are not pivotally connected to the body. As discussed in connection with FIG. 3 of Sandbach, the first and second lateral portions are "folded back" to reveal the device (see col. 4, lines 56-59). Further, the two lateral portions in Sandbach are not "separated sections" as recited in claim 15.

For at least these reasons, claim 15 is allowable over Sandbach. A dependent claim inherits the limitations of a base claim. Thus, for at least the reasons given in connection with independent claim 15, all dependents claims of claim 15 are also allowable over Sandbach.

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II. Claims Rejection: 35 USC § 103(a)

Claim 16 is rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sandbach in view of USPN 6,628,508 (Lieu). Applicants respectfully traverse.

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art cited must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. *See M.P.E.P. § 2143.* Applicants assert that the rejection does not satisfy these criteria.

For example, as discussed above in Section I, Sandbach fails to teach or suggest all the limitations of independent claim 15. Lieu fails to cure the deficiencies of Sandbach. Thus, for at least the reasons given in connection with independent claim 15, dependent claim 16 is allowable over Sandbach in view of Lieu.

III. Claims Rejection: 35 USC § 103(a)

Claim 17 is rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sandbach in view of USPN 6,507,336 (Lunsford). Applicants respectfully traverse.

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art cited must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. *See M.P.E.P. § 2143.* Applicants assert that the rejection does not satisfy these criteria.

For example, as discussed above in Section I, Sandbach fails to teach or suggest all the limitations of independent claim 15. Lunsford fails to cure the deficiencies of Sandbach. Thus, for at least the reasons given in connection with independent claim 15, dependent claim 17 is allowable over Sandbach in view of Lunsford.

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IV. New Claims

Applicants add new claim 21. This claim has numerous limitations that are not taught or suggested in the art of record. No new matter is entered.

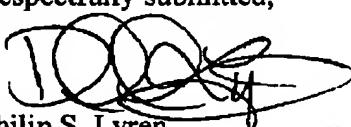
CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicants believe that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to Philip S. Lyren at Telephone No. (281) 514-8236, Facsimile No. (281) 514-8332. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, is being transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office facsimile number 571-273-8300 on this 26th day of August, 2005.

By Be Henry
Name: Be Henry